YOU DON'T NEED TO PUT ON BLINKERS, BOB.
BUT WHERE ARE THEY, OUTLAW?
IT'S A JET, BOB. IT DOESN'T HAVE BLINKERS.
BOB, AGENT OF HYDRA. INCREDIBLY NICE GUY, INCREDIBLY POOR PILOT.
HE'S PART OF MY SUPPORTING CAST NOW, ALONG WITH OUTLAW--SHE'S THE BABE IN THE COWBOY HAT--AND EVERYONE ELSE AT AGENCY X.
WE'RE FLYING THE CORPORATE JET TO PROVIDENCE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC.
WELL, THEY'RE FLYING, I'M PARTAKING OF THESE LOVELY LITTLE BOTTLES AND SALTED NUTS. I LOVE MY SALTED NUTS.
I'M WADE WILSON, MERC WITH A MOUTH KNOWN AS DEADPOOL. RIGHT NOW I'M ON MY WAY TO DO SOME PRO BONO WORK...
...FOR MY EX-BESTEST FRIEND AND AGITA--NATHAN DAYSPRING ASKANI'SON ATCHOO--ALSO KNOWN AS CABLE--SOLDIER/SAVIOR FROM THE FUTURE.
HIS TEAM OF MISUNDERSTOOD, BUT TOP-SELLING, MUTANT MISFITS, THE X-MEN, WERE FIGHTING A NASTY-BIG, MIND-STEALING ALIEN THREAT CALLED THE HECATOMB--
--WHICH, QUITE HONESTLY, IS THE COOLEST ALIEN VILLAIN NAME EVER IN THE HISTORY OF ALIEN VILLAIN NAMES!
SO, IDIOT ME, I DECIDED TO GO HELP NATE. DON'T ASK ME WHY, AND NOW, HERE'N HALFWAY THERE, IT LOOKS LIKE THE FIGHT'S OVER.
BUT WITH THE X-MEN, THE END OF A FIGHT IS USUALLY JUST THE BEGINNING OF THE PROBLEM...
BURP!

FRACTURED PART TWO

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PROVIDENCE.
FORMERLY CABLE'S SOUTH PACIFIC WOMB FOR A NEW SOCIETY
WE DEFEATED THE HECATOMB...
...AND THE ONLY PRICE TO BE PAID WAS ALL THE HOPES AND DREAMS I'VE EVER HAD...

...AND ROGUE'S SANITY.
THE USUAL TRADE-OFF FOR THE X-MEN.
IN ORDER TO DEFEAT THE HECATOMB, SHE HAD TO ABSORB THE MINDS OF EIGHT BILLION PEOPLE.
SHE'S A MESS, AIN'T SHE?
YES, SAM... WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING FOR HER HERE.
THERE MUST BE A WORKING SKIMMER WE CAN SALVAGE IN THE CONQUISTADOR FLIGHT BAY.
GET HER TO HANK McCOY AND EMMA FROST. SHORT OF GETTING CHARLES XAVIER'S HELP--
--AND HAVING JUST LOST THE TELEPATHY I'D REACQUIRED-- THEY'RE THE BEST CHANCE SHE HAS.
YOU'RE NOT COMING?
I CAN'T, MYSTIQUE. PROVIDENCE IS RAVAGED... WHICH MEANS TOO MANY OF MY RESOURCES ARE NO LONGER SECURE.
AND THERE ARE TOO MANY PEOPLE WHO WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO EXPLOIT THAT... WEAKNESS.
AN' SABRETOOTH WASN'T ON THE CONQUISTADOR, WHICH MEANS HE'S ON THE LOOSE SOMEWHERE ON THE ISLAND.
SURE YOU CAN HANDLE THAT ALONE?
I WON'T BE ALONE, SAM. VERY SOON...

...I'LL HAVE MORE COMPANY THAN I'D LIKE...
THEY GO. IT'S THE LAST TIME I'LL SEE THEM AGAIN.
UNTIL THE NEXT TIME I SEE THEM. THAT'S HOW THESE THINGS WORK.
INCREDIBLE. YOU WORK AT SOMETHING FOR YEARS AND IT'S ALL SHOT TO HELL IN A MATTER OF MINUTES.
I'D BE DISAPPOINTED IF I WASN'T SO USED TO IT BY NOW.
ENOUGH. THERE'S WORK TO BE DONE.
DURING THE ATTACK, WE SHUT OFF THE GRAVITY FIELD THAT HELD THE NORTHERN PLATING OF THE ISLAND TOGETHER.
CHUNKS OF THE ISLAND "AIR-LIFTED" THE POPULATION SOUTH WHERE AUSTRALIAN RESCUE WORKERS WILL RETRIEVE THEM LONG BEFORE THE PLATING SINKS INTO THE OCEAN.
UNFORTUNATELY, THE ISLAND'S POWER CORE WAS SHUT DOWN TO PREVENT A TACHYON MELTDOWN DURING THE ATTACK, WHICH MEANS THE REST OF PROVIDENCE WILL SINK IN ABOUT TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.

DOMINO AND PRESTER JOHN HAVE RALLIED THE REMAINING SURVIVORS AT AN EVACUATION POINT.
NATE!
DOM--THE HECATOMB WAS STOPPED, BUT WE STILL HAVE TO GET THESE PEOPLE OFF THE ISLAND.
WE HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO USE THE FERRIES NOW?
YES, JOHN. GET THE PEOPLE MOVING.
WE JUST SAW A SKIMMER LEAVING--WHAT'S GOING ON?
ROGUE ABSORBED THE HECATOMB--THEY TOOK HER TO GET HELP.
WE HAVE OTHER PROBLEMS. WITH THE ISLAND'S CORE DOWN, IT'S GOING TO SINK IF I CAN'T GET THE POWER BACK UP SOON.
WHERE ARE IRENE AND GAREB?
THEY NEVER MADE IT TO THE EVACUATION POINTS BEFORE THE POWER WENT OUT.
DAMN. THAT MEANS...
"... THEY'RE TRAPPED IN THE INFONET CHAMBER!"
NGGMM--NOTHING MORE USELESS THAN A BIG GIANT ELECTRONICS COMMUNICATION FILTERING SYSTEM...
...THAT HAD ITS PLUG PULLED!

TWO FERRIES SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO TAKE CARE OF EVERYONE LEFT.
THE SOONER THE BETTER.
WE HAVE ENOUGH TIME GET IRENE AND BASHUR AND FINISH THE EVAC... RIGHT?
WELL, I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU ABOUT ONE OTHER...LITTLE... PROBLEM.
CREED IS ON THE LOOSE.
OKAY. THAT IS A LITTLE PROBLEM. THINK LIKE SABRE-TOOTH...
...THE EVAC POINT IS THE QUICKEST WAY OFF THE ISLAND, BUT IT HAS THE MOST OPPOSITION... OR HE CAN HIDE AND RIDE IT OUT...
OR HE CAN FIND A HOSTAGE TO USE AS BARTER.
I'LL GET THE INFONET CHAMBER, YOU GET THE POWER CORE.
BE CAREFUL.
AS IF.

DON'T EVEN GET A GOODBYE KISS.
EVERY TIME WE SEE EACH OTHER COULD ALWAYS BE THE LAST...
...BUT PEOPLE LIKE US CAN'T ACKNOWLEDGE THAT.
THERE'S THIS TACIT CODE: IF YOU SAY IT, IT WILL COME TRUE.
THAT, PLUS THE WHOLE, "DON'T SHOW YOUR EMOTIONS" GAME.
I'M SO TIRED OF ALL THOSE GAMES. DOM AND I FINALLY GET THE CHANCE TO PUT SOME OF OUR BAGGAGE BEHIND US...
...AND NOW...
...NOW...
...I HAVE A JOB TO DO...
POWER CORE IS SIX STORIES DOWN.
HAVE TO TRY AND BYPASS ANY DAMAGED RELAYS... SEE IF I CAN AT LEAST GET THE BALLAST TANKS AND GRAV-FIELDS TO MINIMUM POWER...
...WHICH IS A FUN CONUNDRUM: WILL THE ISLAND FALL APART BEFORE IT GETS A CHANCE TO SINK?
I LIKED IT HERE, TOO.

NO, I DON'T THINK SO, DOM.
HOWZABOUT I KEEP HER REEEEAL CLOSE WHILE YOU GO TALK TO NATHAN AN' FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET ME OFF THIS METAL ROCK WITHOUT EVERYONE LEFT ON IT GETTIN' KILLED...?
HE'S A BIT BUSY RIGHT NOW, VICTOR... TRYING TO KEEP THE METAL ROCK FROM SINKING.
SO WE'LL ALL GO TOGETHER, DOM.
COOL. YOU DON'T MIND IF I KEEP MY SIGHTS LOCKED BETWEEN YOUR BEADY LITTLE EYES, DO YOU?
WOULDN'T MIND AT ALL...
I LIKE WHAT YOU GUYS HAVE DONE WITH THE PLACE.
KIND OF TURNED INTO A FIXER-UPPER, HUH? DON'T WORRY...
"...I'M SURE NATE HAS HIS TOOL KIT OUT ALREADY..."
KLANG KLANG
WELL... THIS ISN'T WORKING...

GOTTA TELLYA, I'M ALMOST SORRY THIS PLACE GOT HIT LIKE THIS.
NOT THAT I CARE FOR THE POLLYANNA *UTOPIA* CRAP NATE WAS GOIN' FOR HERE--
--BUT I DO ADMIRE THE ***BRASS ONES*** IT TOOK TO ***SHOVE*** IT IN EVERYONE'S FACES NO MATTER HOW HARD THEY TRIED TO PRETEND IT DIDN'T EXIST.
...
WHAT? GOT NUTHIN' TO SAY?
EVEN IF I DID, I WON'T BE GETTING A WORD IN EDGEWISE...

HEY VICKIE!!

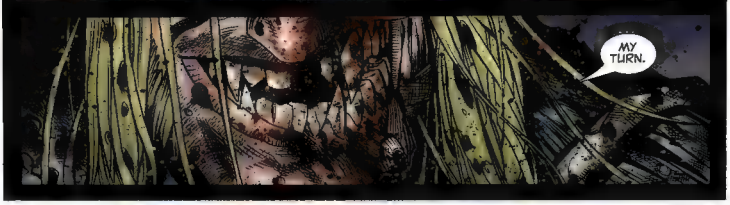
PRAKPRAKPRAKPRAKPRAKPRAKPRAK
BIG KISSES, SWEETIE!

NNGNYYFF
IRENE-- ROLL AWAY--

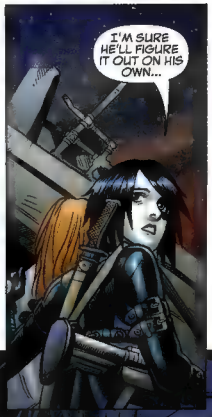
HEY, GIRLS. WHAT'S UP?
OHMYGOD--GARE8--OH GOD--
IT'S OKAY, IRENE--EASY--WE HAVE TO MOVE...
YOU GOT IRENE? I'LL STAY AND KICK CREED'S FACE IN.
YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I'D RATHER TRADE PLACES.
YEAH. NATE WOULD NEVER FORGIVE ME IF I DID THAT.
PROBABLY NOT.
WADE...
THANK YOU.
MAN, THAT WAS SO HARD TO SAY IT. TOOK TWO OF YOU TO SAY IT!
JUST IN CASE, TELL NATE I'M SORRY.
ABOUT--?
EVERY-THING.
OKAY, SO, BACK TO BUSINESS.

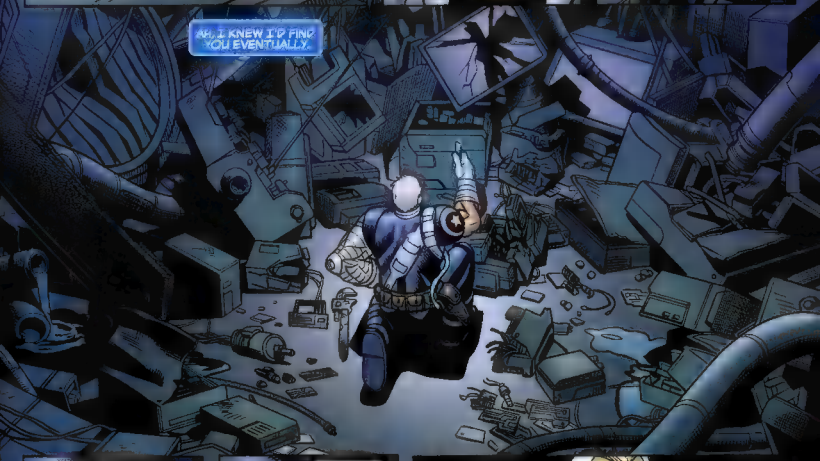
PRAKPRAKPRAKPRAKPRAK
DOO DOO DOO DOO-- DA DA DA DA-- I WHISTLE WHILE I COUNT MY STASH...
PRAKPRAKPRAKPRAKPRAKPRAKPRAK
DOO DOO DOO DOO-- DA DA DA DA-- WE'LL REUNITE FOR LOTS OF CASH
I'll take Fatal!
PRAKPRAKPRAKPRAKPRAKPRAKPRAK
I KNOW, I KNOW, YOU'RE THINKING, "I HATED THAT SONG"--BUT YOU'RE ALSO THINKING-- "HE'S GONNA RUN OUT OF BULLETS SOON..."
PRAKPRAKPRAKPRAKPRAKPRAKPRAK

AND YOU KNOW, YOU'RE RIGHT. I AM.
QUESTION IS, BY THE TIME I DO... WILL THERE BE ANYTHING LEFT OF YOU FOR YOUR HEALING FACTOR TO FIX?
BRAK BRAK BRAK BRAK BRAK BRAK
BRAK BRAK BRAK BRAK BRAK BRAK BRAK BRAK
I MEAN, I'M HOPING, REALLY 'CAUSE THAT JUST MEANS I CAN FIND NEW WAYS TO PUDDINIZE YOU.
PUDDINIZE MEANS: TO TURN ONE INTO PUDDING. I JUST MADE THAT UP.
BRAK BRAK BRAK
CHIK CHIK CHIK CHIK CHIK
CHIK CHIK CHIK CHIK CHIK CHIK CHIK
HEY, LOOK AT THAT.
NO WAY!


MY TURN.

NATE IS IN THERE NOW. I'M GOING TO SEE IF HE NEEDS HELP.
DOMINO--PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME ALONE---
IRENE, THE EVAC IS THREE BLOCKS AHEAD...

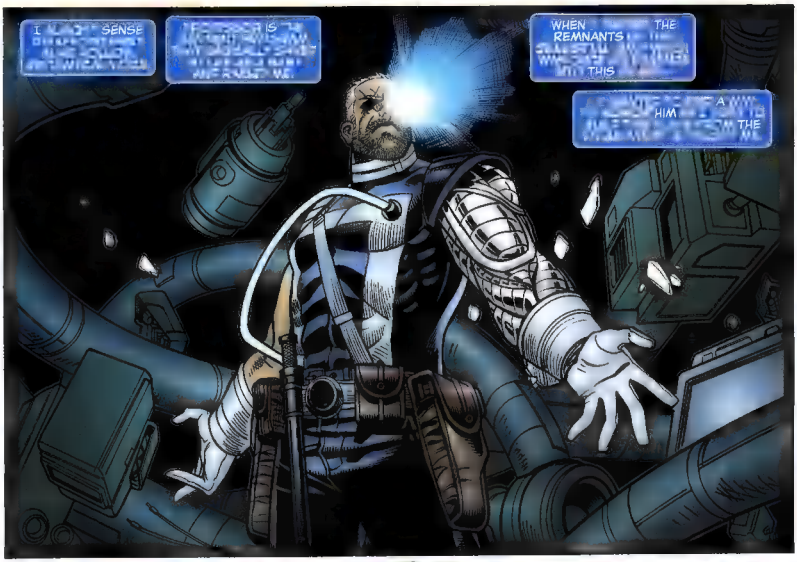

I'M SURE HE'LL FIGURE IT OUT ON HIS OWN...

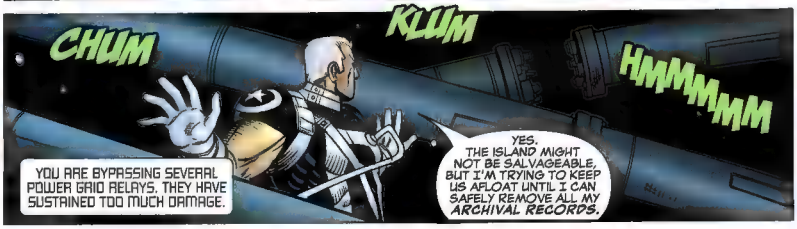

AH, I KNEW I'D FIND YOU EVENTUALLY.

WELCOME BACK, PROFESSOR.

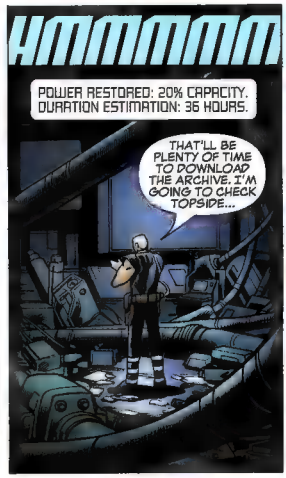
HMM?

YES, IT'S ME. BUT YOU'RE NOT REALLY YOU, JUST A COPY I MADE AND HAD ENCRYPTED INTO THE POWER CORE.
I UNDERSTAND.


I ALMOST SENSE
WHEN THE REMNANTS
HIM


CHUM
KLUM
HMMMMMM
YOU ARE BYPASSING SEVERAL POWER GRID RELAYS. THEY HAVE SUSTAINED TOO MUCH DAMAGE.
YES. THE ISLAND MIGHT NOT BE SALVAGEABLE, BUT I'M TRYING TO KEEP US AFLOAT UNTIL I CAN SAFELY REMOVE ALL MY ARCHIVAL RECORDS.

OUR PAST CONTAINS TOO MUCH INFORMATION THAT COULD SKEW THIS FUTURE.
IF I CAN'T HAVE IT, I DON'T THINK IT'S WISE THAT ANYONE ELSE DOES...


HMMMMMM
POWER RESTORED: 20% CAPACITY. DURATION ESTIMATION: 36 HOURS.
THAT'LL BE PLENTY OF TIME TO DOWNLOAD THE ARCHIVE. I'M GOING TO CHECK TOPSIDE...

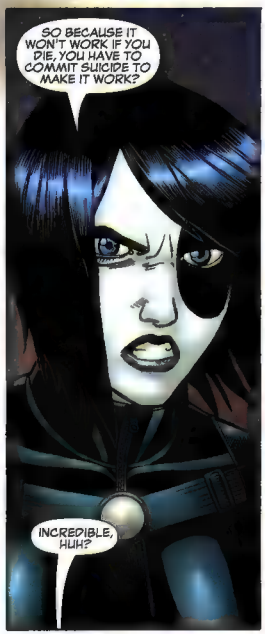
I DON'T SEE GAREB BASHUR. I DON'T NEED TO BE TOLD WHAT THAT MEANS.
YOU RESTORED THE POWER?
JUST ENOUGH TO FINISH THE JOB.
SABRETOOTH?
DEADPOOL.
REALLY...?
JUST WHEN YOU THINK YOU KNOW EVERYTHING THE FUTURE HAS IN STORE...
NATE--YOU SAID "FINISH..."?
IT'S OVER, IRENE. FOR NOW, ANYWAY. MAYBE FOREVER. I DON'T KNOW.
THE ISLAND, YOU MEAN?
MAYBE THE DREAM, TOO. MAYBE IT WAS TOO MUCH TO ASK OF PEOPLE.
THEY CAN HANDLE A LOT--ANGER, CYNICISM, HATRED--BUT THEY CAN'T HANDLE HOPE.
BUT YOU STARTED SOMETHING, NATE--HERE--AND IN RUMEKISTAN...
WE'LL SEE.
I LOVE YOU, NATE. I LOVE WHAT YOU TRIED TO DO--WHO IT MADE ME BECOME...
INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER TURNED POLITICAL BABYSITTER?
NO... SOMEONE WHO CARES...

I LEFT WADE WITH CREED. WE SHOULD GO HELP HIM.

NO.
WHAT?
YOU HAVE TO LEAVE ON THE FERRY.
LIKE HELL--

DOM, I CAN HELP WADE, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO DESTROY THIS ISLAND.
YOU JUST RESTORED POWER--WHY WOULD YOU--
THERE'S INFORMATION HERE.
TECH-NOLOGY.
IT WON'T STAY HIDDEN AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN--I PROVED THAT MYSELF BY DRAGGING IT UP.
I NEEDED TO BUY THE TIME TO MAKE SURE NO ONE WOULD BE ABLE TO ACQUIRE IT.

PROVIDENCE HAD A FAIL-SAFE IN CASE I DIED.
ALL MY ARCHIVAL RECORDS--MY PAST--AND COUNTLESS POSSIBLE FUTURES--WOULD HAVE BEEN INCINERATED.
THE FAIL-SAFE WAS DAMAGED WITH HECATOMB'S ATTACK. I HAVE TO TRIGGER IT MANUALLY.


SO BECAUSE IT WON'T WORK IF YOU DIE, YOU HAVE TO COMMIT SUICIDE TO MAKE IT WORK?
INCREDIBLE, HUH?

I'M NOT GOING TO COMMIT SUICIDE.
PROMISE.

PROMISE.
BUT HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I BROKEN A PROMISE...?
MAN, YOU'RE GONNA BE ONE MIGHTY TOUGH OPPONENT ONCE ALL YOUR TENDONS REATTACH THEMSELVES...
SLIKKKT
BUT IN THE MEANTIME, IT'S FUN TO WATCH YOU SHUFFLE AROUND LIKE TAYLOR HICKS TRYING TO DO SWAN LAKE.

HE CAN'T BE KILLED BY CONVENTIONAL MEANS AND WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR ANYTHING COMPLICATED.
OPTIONS: TRY TO RESTRAIN HIM UNTIL I DESTROY THE ARCHIVES. HE'LL LIKELY SURVIVE THE DETONATION.
LET WADE KEEP HIM OCCUPIED UNTIL I DESTROY THE ARCHIVES. THEY'LL BOTH PROBABLY SURVIVE THE DETONATION.
THE HELL WITH IT.
HELLO, WADE.
GOODBYE, VICTOR.
SON OF AAAA

WELL, THAT WAS ANTICLIMACTIC!
WE DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO PLAY.
HMPH. WHERE'D YOU TOSS HIM?
UHM... THAT WAY.
WHERE IT SHOULD TAKE HIM A VERY, VERY LONG TIME TO SWIM TO LAND.

OKAY, WHAT NOW?
FIRST THINGS FIRST.
AAAH, YOU HAD ME AT "HELLO" AND YOU KNOW IT!
OKAY, WHAT NOW?
WE BURY THE DEAD AND WE PREVENT ANYONE FROM OBTAINING THE SECRETS OF THE FUTURE.
AND WE'LL KILL BOTH BIRDS WITH ONE STONE.
YOU THINK PEOPLE ARE GONNA COME AFTER YOUR GOODIES?
NO...I THINK THEY'RE ALREADY HERE...

TO BE CONTINUED SIMULTANEOUSLY IN X-MEN #200 AND CABLE & DEADPOOL #42
WHEN ALL IS SAID AND DONE, NOTHING WILL BE THE SAME AGAIN!